



9P-1743

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September 6, 2002

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

NUMBER: EV022560789US

DATE: September 6, 2002

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 2327  
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Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/897,106 entitled "Fluidic Methods and Devices for Parallel Chemical Reactions" by Zhou, et al.  
(Our Ref.: XEO100/4-001US/36000)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in connection with the above-referenced patent application are:

1. Preliminary Amendment; and
2. A return postcard to acknowledging receipt of this document. Please date stamp and mail this postcard upon receipt.

It is believed that no fees are due relating to this document. Should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from VINSON & ELKINS L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 22-0365/XEO100/4-001US/36000.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret J. Sampson  
Reg. No. 47,052

1864:3058

Enclosures

cc: Rob Donnelly (w/o encl.)  
G. Kenneth Smith, Ph.D. (w/o encl.)  
Marya Breig, Docket Specialist (w/encl.)

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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*In re* Application of:  
Zhou, et al.

Serial No.: 09/897,106

Filed: July 3, 2001

For: FLUIDIC METHODS AND DEVICES  
FOR PARALLEL CHEMICAL  
REACTIONS

Group Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Handy, Dwayne

Atty. Dkt. No.: XEO100/4-001US

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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Sir:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

**I. AMENDMENT**

**A. In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 31-33, 36-37, 50-99, 110-144, and 151-158, and amend claims 1, 7, 18, 35, 43, 46, 47, 100, 104, 145, 150, and 159 as follows:

1. (Amended) A microfluidic reactor comprising:

a plurality of flow-through reaction cells, each reaction cell comprising: